

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE:

[0052] A method and apparatus to perform task scheduling are described. Tasks are assigned by receiving a request to execute a task on one of multiple processors. The type of task is determined for the task. A processor task value is used to select the proper processor and the task is assigned.

Please replace the following paragraph [0010] of the Specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0010] In one embodiment, the network nodes may communicate information to each other in the form of packets. A packet in this context may refer to a set of information of a limited length, with the length typically represented in terms of bits or bytes. An example of a packet length might be 1000 bytes. The packets may be communicated in accordance with one or more packet protocols. For example, in one embodiment the packet protocols may include one or more protocols, such as the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) as defined by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) standard 7, Request For Comment (RFC) 793, adopted in September, 1981; the User Datagram Protocol (UDP) as defined by IETF standard 6, RFC 768, adopted in August, 1980; and the Internet Protocol (IP) as defined by the IETF standard 5, RFC 791, adopted in September, 1981, all available from “www.ietf.org”, although the embodiments are not limited to this context.